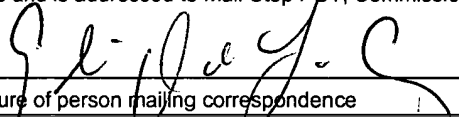


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Jeffrey D. Croissant et al. Art Unit: Not yet assigned  
Serial No.: Not yet assigned Examiner: Not yet assigned  
Filed: July 19, 2005 Customer No.: 21559  
Title: METHOD OF PREPARING CELL FOR TRANSPLANTATION

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to examination of the above-captioned application, kindly amend the application as follows.